Concord/Concord-Carlisle School Committees
Policy Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Meeting via Zoom & Ripley Conference Room 3

March 31, 2022 10:00 AM

Present: Court Booth, Tracey Marano, Eva Mostoufi, Laurie Hunter, Jared Stanton, Ian Rhames, Dorothy Presser

- **1. Call to Order** Mr. Booth called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM, noting that it was being recorded. Roll call attendance was taken: Booth, aye; Marano, aye; Mostoufi, aye.
- 2. Vote to Approve Minutes Approval of the March 24, 2022 minutes postponed to next meeting.

3. Public Comments

- 1. Tanya Gailus . Ms. Gailus urged the chairs of the School Committee and other committees to override the policy of not responding to public comments and questions, noting that responding may create better community relations.
- 2. Erin Fife, 174 Hill Street, Concord MA. Ms. Fife suggested that the SC and Superintendent engage with the METCO families to make sure the METCO families voices are heard as this policy is developed.

4. Policies Reviewed:

METCO Representative/s to the School Committee. Ms. Marano shared information she collected on the METCO representative policies of Weston, Bedford and Lincoln and Subcommittee discussed the different approaches to representation to see what might make sense for the district. Mr. Booth noted that making this representative a voting member would constitute a reopening of the Regional Agreement. Ms. Mostoufi noted that the policy needs to be effective and reflect what is really happening in practice. Ms. Marano stated that she would reach out to the three representatives from Weston, Bedford and Lincoln to get a better understanding of their practices. The process of electing the representative was discussed, with agreement that it made sense for the METCO parent body to elect a representative, who is then recognized by the SC. A possible stipend to offset out-of-pocket costs was discussed, and it was noted that volunteer School Committee roles do require significant investment. The most suitable mechanism for going about reaching all families to solicit interest was discussed. Dr. Hunter noted that they could use a model similar to what SEPAC uses for information flow to parents. Alternate representation (two representatives) was discussed, and Ms. Presser questioned how the body would decide who was primary and who was alternate. Student representation was discussed and Dr. Hunter stated that they are working on accessibility issues and are reaching out to ask for a volunteer. Mr. Booth summarized discussion points of the representative to date:

- K-12 position or role
- District mechanism that is all inclusive for METCO families through which an election process can be held annually
- Election results would result in a recognition versus a formal appointment by the SC
- No alternate
- Non-voting position, but opinion would be recorded
- If a representative were to be unable to complete a term or the representative resigns, an election would take place within 60 days, with a member of the METCO Superintendent's Advisory Council to act as representative until election is completed so there is no gap in representation

The Subcommittee agreed upon holding a policy meeting prior to the SC meeting on Tuesday, April 5^{th} at 5:30 PM to finalize this draft policy.

MASC Advisory – (February 2022, AC, AC-R, ACAB, JICK). The Subcommittee agreed to discuss these policies at the next meeting after defining a more refined strategy for reviewing them.

KF – Community Use of School Facilities and KF-R – Use of School Facilities. Mr. Booth noted a question on the fees that was not conclusive from the previous meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Marano,

to reduce the Group II High School Gymnasium fee from \$75/hour to \$50/hour. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Ms. Marano, seconded by Ms. Mostoufi, to bring policies KF and KF-R with the January 6, 2022 language from the Business Office, also with the edit discussed at this meeting, forward to the SC for a second reading and vote. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Public Comments

- 1. Erin Fife. Ms. Fife suggesting considering adding 2 student reps of color and revisiting the consideration of having more than on representative from the parents as well.
- 2. Lucy Dinner, 7 Pine Street, Hyde Park MA. Ms. Dinner sked the Subcommittee to consider having an alternate, noting the equity issue. She also asked that a Zoom option be considered, noting that this would provide for more participation.
- **6. Adjournment** A motion was made by Ms. Marano, seconded by Ms. Mostoufi, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call and the meeting adjourned at 11:39 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Erin Higgins

Approved: 4.5.22